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Mass.

**District Police, Detective
and Fire Inspection Dept.**

**Inflammable
Compounds
Laws and Regulations**

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DISTRICT POLICE

DETECTIVE AND FIRE INSPECTION
DEPARTMENT

INFLAMMABLE COMPOUNDS

LAW AND REGULATIONS

Governing the Manufacture, Storage and Keeping
for Sale of Inflammable Compounds, and the
Storage and Handling of Volatile Inflammable
Liquid in connection therewith

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BOSTON
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
32 DERNE STREET
1914

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LAW.

Chapter 370, Acts of 1904, as amended by Chapter 230, Acts of 1905, Chapter 502, Acts of 1908, Chapter 223, Acts of 1910, and Chapter 452, Acts of 1913.

EXPLOSIVES AND INFLAMMABLES.

SECTION 1. The powers and duties heretofore conferred and imposed upon cities and towns and the mayors and aldermen, city councils and selectmen thereof, by chapter one hundred and two of the Revised Laws, to regulate the keeping, storage, use, manufacture, sale, handling, transportation or other disposition of gunpowder, dynamite, crude petroleum or any of its products, or explosive or inflammable fluids or compounds, tablets, torpedoes or any explosives of a like nature, or any other explosives, except fireworks and firecrackers, are hereby conferred and imposed upon the detective and fire inspection department of the district police, except as to the transportation of said explosives by steam railroads.

SECTION 2. The detective and fire inspection department of the district police may make regulations, except as hereinbefore provided, for the keeping, storage, use, manufacture, sale, handling, transportation or other disposition of gunpowder, dynamite, crude petroleum or any of its products, or explosive or inflammable fluids or compounds, tablets, torpedoes or any explosives of a like nature, or any other explosives, except fireworks and firecrackers, and may prescribe the materials and construction of buildings to be used for any of the said purposes.

SECTION 3. No building or other structure shall be used in any city or town for the keeping, storage, manufacture or sale of any of the articles named in section two unless the mayor and aldermen or selectmen have granted a license therefor for one year from the date thereof after a public hearing, fourteen days' public notice of which shall be given by mailing a copy of the notice to abutting property owners and other persons interested within a reasonable radius of the proposed building, at least fourteen days before said hearing, at the expense of the applicant, and unless a permit shall be granted therefor by the chief of the district police, or by some official or officials designated by the said chief for that purpose: *provided, however*, that any building or other structure once used under a license and permit granted as aforesaid or any building or other structure lawfully used for any of said purposes may be continued in such use from year to year if the owner or occupant thereof shall, while such use continues, annually file for registration a certificate, reciting such use and occupancy, with the city or town clerk of the city or town where such building or other structure is situated and with the chief of the district police, or the official designated by him to grant permits in such city or town. The detective and fire inspection department of the district police may by regulation prescribe the amount of explosives, crude petroleum or any of its products, or any other inflammable fluid or compound, that may be kept for private use in a building or other structure without a license, permit or registration. The right to use a building or other structure for any of said purposes may be revoked for cause after notice and hearing given to such owner or occupant at any time by the mayor and aldermen or selectmen having authority to grant licenses for such use, or may be revoked for cause after notice and hearing given to such owner or occupant at any time by the chief of the district police. A fee of one dollar may be charged for the license and a like sum for the permit herein provided for, and one half of said sum for the registration of the said certificate. Such building or structure shall always be subject to such alterations in construction and such regulations of such use for protection against fire or explosion as the detective and fire inspection department of the district police may from time to time prescribe.

SECTION 4. The chief of the district police may designate some official or officials of any city or town who shall, when so desig-

MAR 7 1934

nated, have the power to grant, in accordance with rules and regulations from time to time established by said detective and fire inspection department of the district police, the permits provided for in the preceding section, or required by the regulations made under section two of this act, and it shall be the duty of such official or officials to grant such permits and to keep a record of the same. A fee of fifty cents may be charged for a permit other than the permit required in the preceding section.

SECTION 5. Whoever keeps, stores, uses, manufactures, sells, handles, transports, or otherwise disposes of any of the articles mentioned in section two, in violation of this act or of the regulations made hereunder, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one month, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE DISTRICT POLICE,
BOSTON, MASS., April 15, 1914.

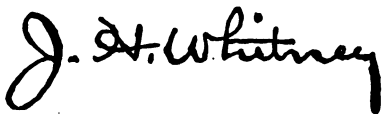
To whom it may concern:

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 370, Acts of 1904, and amendments thereto, I hereby designate the following-named officials to grant permits to store and keep for sale inflammable compound or to manufacture inflammable compound and to keep or store volatile inflammable liquid for use in connection therewith, in the city or town in which they respectively have official authority, in accordance with the rules and regulations from time to time established by the Detective and Fire Inspection Department of the District Police: —

The Fire Commissioner, in any city or town having such an official.

The Chief Engineer or the Chief of the Fire Department in any other city, town or fire district.

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen in any town or part thereof not having a fire commissioner, chief engineer nor chief of the fire department.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. St. Whitney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Chief of the District Police.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE DETECTIVE AND FIRE INSPECTION DEPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT POLICE,

BOSTON, MASS., April 15, 1914.

REGULATIONS

Of the Detective and Fire Inspection Department of the District Police governing the Manufacture, Storage and Keeping for Sale of Inflammable Compound, and the Storage and Handling of Volatile Inflammable Liquid in Connection therewith.

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 370, Acts of 1904, and amendments thereto, the Detective and Fire Inspection Department of the District Police hereby adopts and prescribes the following regulations governing the manufacture, storage and keeping for sale of inflammable compound, and the storage and handling of volatile inflammable liquid in connection therewith.

CHAPTER 1.

Definitions.

SECTION 1. "Inflammable compound" shall mean any substance, either fluid or solid, or any fluid that contains solid matter in suspension or otherwise, which will evaporate a gas that will flash at a temperature of less than one hundred degrees Fahrenheit, to be ascertained by the application of either Tagliabue's, Abel-Pensky's or Pensky-Martens' closed cup instrument.

SECTION 2. "Volatile inflammable liquid" shall mean any liquid which will evaporate a gas that will flash at a temperature of less than one hundred degrees Fahrenheit, to be ascertained by the application of either Tagliabue's, Abel-Pensky's or Pensky-Martens' closed cup instrument.

SECTION 3. "Unpierced fire walls, floor and ceiling" shall mean walls constructed either of brick, stone, cement concrete, hollow tile or cement blocks covered with cement mortar not less than three-quarters of an inch in thickness, or metal lath and cement plaster not less than one and one-half inches in thickness supported by angle iron frame; floor constructed of cement concrete not less than three inches in thickness; and ceiling constructed of metal lath and cement plaster not less than three-quarters of an inch in thickness. All to be without openings of any kind therein, except for piping or electrical conduits, which shall be sealed in the wall air-tight.

CHAPTER 2.

Licenses and Permits.

SECTION 4. No person shall manufacture, store or keep for sale any inflammable compound in a building, or keep or store any volatile inflammable liquid for use in connection therewith, unless a license and a permit have been obtained therefor in accordance with the provisions of chapter 370, Acts of 1904, and amendments thereto: *provided, however:—*

(a) That any building, except a building used in whole or in part as a dwelling, may be used for the storage or keeping for sale of the said compound in quantity not exceeding six gallons, in the aggregate, without a license or a permit.

(b) That any building used in whole or in part as a dwelling may be used for the keeping or storage of the said compound for domestic use only, in quantities not exceeding one quart for each family residing therein, without a license or a permit.

(c) That any building used in whole or in part as a hotel having over fifteen sleeping-rooms may be used for the keeping or storage of the said compound for domestic use only, in quantity not exceeding three gallons, without a license or a permit.

SECTION 5. Any store or shop located in a

building which is used in part as a dwelling may be used for the storage or keeping for sale of the said compound in quantity not exceeding four gallons, in the aggregate, and in the unbroken trade containers provided for in these regulations, without a license or permit. A quantity not exceeding twelve gallons of the said compound may be so kept, if a license and a permit have been obtained therefor in accordance with the provisions of chapter 370, Acts of 1904, and amendments thereto.

SECTION 6. No person shall store or keep for sale any inflammable compound within this Commonwealth for use as a stove polish or as an insecticide: *provided, however*, that this section shall not apply to foundry pastes containing naphtha, when sold in unbroken, properly marked and hermetically sealed metal packages of not less than five pounds each, nor the storage and use of such pastes on the premises of stove foundries only.

SECTION 7. Applications for permits to store and keep for sale inflammable compound, or to manufacture inflammable compound and to keep or store volatile inflammable liquid for use in connection therewith, shall be made in writing to the Chief of the District Police, or the official designated by him to grant such permits, upon forms to be furnished by the Chief of the District Police. A permit shall not be granted until a license has been obtained from the mayor and aldermen of a city or the selectmen of a town.

SECTION 8. No permits shall be granted for the manufacture, storage or sale of any inflammable compound that contains a volatile inflammable liquid in excess of eighty per cent. of the volume thereof.

SECTION 9. All licenses and permits provided for in these regulations must be conspicuously posted, under glass, upon the premises.

SECTION 10. The Chief of the District Police, or the official granting the permit, may revoke the same for cause, after due notice and hearing.

CHAPTER 3.

Location and Construction.

SECTION 11. No inflammable compound shall be manufactured in any building: —

(a) That is located within fifty feet of the nearest wall of any building occupied as a hotel exceeding two stories in height, school, hospital, theatre or place of public amusement or assembly.

(b) That is occupied in any part as a dwelling, tenement house or lodging house.

(c) That is more than three stories in height.

(d) That is of wooden construction throughout, except located not less than two hundred feet from the nearest building.

(e) That is artificially lighted by any means other than electricity.

(f) In any part of which drugs, cigars, cigarettes or tobacco are kept for sale.

(g) In any part of which dry goods, matches, resin, hemp, cotton, explosives, fireworks, fire-crackers or other materials of a highly inflammable nature are stored or kept for sale.

SECTION 12. The mixing room of a building used in any part for the manufacture of inflammable compound shall be located in the top story of such building; shall have walls and ceiling covered with metal lath and cement plaster not less than one inch in thickness; a cement concrete floor not less than two inches in thickness; door sills raised at least three inches above the floor level; all doors to be standard fire doors, and all windows which expose other buildings within fifteen feet fitted with wireglass, metal sashes and frames. There shall be a skylight, glazed with common glass, in the roof of the building, opening into the mixing room.

SECTION 13. In the mixing room there shall be ventilating apertures in the outer walls leading direct to the outside air. Said apertures shall have a clear sectional area of not less than thirty-six square inches, shall be covered on the outside with 30-mesh brass wire screens, and shall be located not more than three inches from

the floor level, and, if possible, placed on opposite sides of the room.

SECTION 14. Mixing tanks shall be provided with covers of iron, or wood covered with sheet iron, hinged and fitted with a flange to extend down at least two inches over all sides of the tanks when closed. The said covers shall be kept closed except when the ingredients entering into the manufacture of the inflammable compound are being placed therein.

SECTION 15. There shall be no connection between the mixing room and any public drain, sewer or cesspool.

CHAPTER 4.

Artificial Lighting and Heating.

SECTION 16. The artificial lighting shall be by means of the electric incandescent system, with keyless sockets, vapor-tight double globes surrounded with wire cages; and all electric switches and cut-outs shall be located on the outside of the room.

SECTION 17. The artificial heat shall be furnished by steam or hot water derived from a source outside of and entirely separate from any room in which volatile inflammable liquid or compound is manufactured or exposed to evaporation.

CHAPTER 5.

Operation and Maintenance.

SECTION 18. No electrical apparatus capable of emitting an exposed spark, and no stove, forge, boiler, torch, naked flame or fire shall be allowed in or about any room in which volatile inflammable liquid or compound is manufactured or exposed to evaporation.

SECTION 19. No smoking, nor any lighted cigar, cigarette or pipe, nor any matches or pocket lighters shall be allowed in or near any room in which volatile inflammable liquid or compound is manufactured or exposed to evaporation.

SECTION 20. Inflammable compound manufactories shall be furnished with a sufficient number of chemical fire extinguishers, and buckets, filled with sand and provided with hand scoops, for use in case of fire.

SECTION 21. Inflammable compound for sale shall be put up in metal cans not in excess of one gallon capacity, which shall be fitted with screw caps and shall be air-tight when closed.

SECTION 22. Each can containing an inflammable compound shall bear upon the label the trade name of the compound; the name of the volatile inflammable liquid employed therein; the name and address of the manufacturer; and in large letters conspicuously displayed thereon, the words: —

“THIS CAN CONTAINS .” *

“CAUTION — INFLAMMABLE COMPOUND.”

“KEEP AWAY FROM FLAME OR FIRE.”

SECTION 23. Not more than twenty-five gallons of inflammable compound, in the aggregate, shall be kept for sale at retail in a building at any one time, and such inflammable compound shall be kept and sold in the original packages.

SECTION 24. Not more than five hundred gallons of inflammable compound, in the aggregate, shall be stored or kept for sale at wholesale in a building at any one time. The said compound shall be kept in its original cases, in a building used exclusively for that purpose and separated from other buildings by unpierced fire walls or in rooms used exclusively for that purpose in fire-proof warehouses only: *provided, however*, that this section shall not apply to the storage of inflammable compound on the premises of separate manufactories located in isolated portions of cities and towns.

* Name of the volatile inflammable liquid to appear in this space, such as naphtha, gasoline, benzine or otherwise.

CHAPTER 6.

Storage and Handling of Volatile Inflammable Liquid.

SECTION 25. Not more than thirty gallons of volatile inflammable liquid shall be allowed at any one time in any building, any part of which is used for the manufacture of inflammable compound, and all of the said liquid shall be manufactured into commercial compounds as soon as possible after receipt thereof, placed in trade containers, and removed at once from the mixing room.

SECTION 26. Quantities of volatile inflammable liquid in excess of thirty gallons shall be stored in underground tanks, and when so stored shall be conveyed by means of a pump through a pipe running directly from such storage tank to the mixing tank.

SECTION 27. Where practicable, tanks for the storage of volatile inflammable liquid shall be installed outside of buildings underground, on a solid foundation entirely surrounded by earth, well tamped in place, the top of the tank to be not less than two feet below the surface of the ground.

SECTION 28. If impracticable to locate a storage tank outside of a building, it may be placed underground inside of a building not less than two feet below the level of the surface of the ground.

SECTION 29. A tank containing volatile inflammable liquid, if within ten feet of a building having a cellar or basement and not placed below the level of the floor of such cellar or basement, shall be embedded and entirely surrounded by not less than ten inches in thickness of Portland cement concrete.

SECTION 30. No tank in excess of two hundred and eighty gallons' capacity shall be installed underground inside of a building having a basement, or more than one story in height, unless such building is of fireproof construction.

SECTION 31. No tank in excess of five hundred and fifty gallons' capacity shall be installed underground on the premises of any inflammable compound manufactory unless a special permit has been granted therefor by the Chief of the District Police.

SECTION 32. Underground storage tanks of more than sixty gallons' capacity and less than two hundred and eighty gallons' capacity must be constructed of No. 12 gauge galvanized steel or three-sixteenths of an inch black steel.

SECTION 33. Tanks in excess of two hundred and eighty gallons' capacity shall be constructed of not less than three-sixteenths of an inch galvanized steel or one-quarter inch black steel.

SECTION 34. Tanks shall be riveted, welded or brazed, and shall be soldered or caulked to make them tight and strong.

SECTION 35. All tanks shall be thickly covered with asphaltum or some other rust-resisting material.

SECTION 36. No storage tank shall hereafter be placed under a sidewalk or in front of the building line of a street.

SECTION 37. Storage tanks shall be filled from a tank wagon in the daytime.

SECTION 38. Each storage tank must be provided with a filling pipe, a draught pipe leading direct to the mixing tank, a vent pipe and may have a gauge pipe, the opening to which, when the tank is located in a basement, shall be protected, preferably, by some safety self-closing device.

SECTION 39. All pipes shall lead from the top of tanks, and the top of all tanks shall be below the level of the lowest pipe used in connection therewith, except piping on the inside of tanks.

SECTION 40. All pipes connected with a tank for the storage of volatile inflammable liquid shall be of galvanized wrought iron or steel, and shall have malleable fittings, and all screw joints shall be made up with litharge and glycerin.

SECTION 41. All pipes used for the conveyance of volatile inflammable liquid must decline

to tanks without traps or pockets and shall be protected against mechanical injury.

SECTION 42. Filler pipes must be made of galvanized iron not less than one and one-quarter inch in diameter, and extend to within two inches of the bottom of the tank.

SECTION 43. The outer end of the filler pipe must terminate in a screw or close fitting cap kept securely locked when not in use.

SECTION 44. Where tanks are located under the building, the filler pipe must run to the outside of such building.

SECTION 45. Where a filler pipe runs to a sidewalk, alley or public highway, it must terminate in a screw or close-fitting cap and be protected by a cast-iron filler box with iron cover, set flush with the surface of the sidewalk at the curb, alley or highway, to be kept locked when not in use.

SECTION 46. The vent pipe shall be of galvanized wrought iron not less than one inch in diameter, and shall run from the top of the tank to at least four feet above the roof of the building, except as otherwise provided in section 48.

SECTION 47. A vent pipe shall terminate not less than ten feet from all openings in higher adjacent buildings with a double gooseneck opening downward, the openings to be covered with a brass wire screen not coarser than 30-mesh.

SECTION 48. Where a tank is located not less than ten feet from any building, a combination filling and vent pipe so equipped as to vent the tank when necessary, may, in the discretion of the official granting the permit, be used.

SECTION 49. All draught pipes passing through a building from the basement to the mixing tank shall be enclosed in cement concrete not less than four inches in thickness, and, when practicable, such pipes shall be placed next to the wall.

SECTION 50. Volatile inflammable liquid shall be drawn from the tank by means of a suction pump which shall have a shut-off valve with a

ground key on the nozzle. In no case shall there be a return waste pipe to the tank.

SECTION 51. No volatile inflammable liquid shall be used for motive power for any stationary engine in an inflammable compound manufactory.

SECTION 52. The maximum quantities of inflammable compound and of volatile inflammable liquid allowed by the foregoing regulations may be reduced in the discretion of the official granting the permit.

CHAPTER 7.

Miscellaneous.

SECTION 53. These regulations shall take effect on the first day of May, 1914.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. H. Whitney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Chief of the District Police.



